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FALL ARTS GUIDE

Chill with our top picks for the season. 8-17

THINGS TO KNOW

Environmental groups say repeal will threaten wetlands, drinking water.

The Trump administration on Thursday announced repeal of an Obama-era regulation that had expanded pollution protections for waterways such as wetlands and shallow streams, but that farmers, miners and manufacturers decried as overreach.

The widely anticipated move to repeal the 2015 Waters of the United States rule, known as WOTUS, is part of a broader effort by President Donald Trump to roll back environmental regulations to boost industry. Environmental groups called the move "shameful and dangerous."

Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Andrew Wheeler said that the EPA and the U.S. Army would reinstate water rules that were issued in the 1980s, and would begin re-defining which waterways can be regulated, a task to be completed by this winter.

"Today's Step 1 action fulfills a key promise of President Trump and sets the stage for Step 2 — a new WOTUS definition that will provide greater regulatory certainty for farmers, land-

Trump administration rolls back Obama-era clean water protections

1



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) building in Washington, D.C.

GETTY IMAGES

owners, home builders and developers nationwide," Wheeler said in a statement.

"This final rule reestablishes national consistency across the country," said R.D. James, assistant secretary of the U.S. Army for civil works.

He said it will eliminate the "patchwork" of definitions of waterways regulated under the Clean Water Act as a result of various court decisions enjoining the 2015 rule.

The Obama-era rule had been in place in 22 states, the District of

"This final rule reestablishes national consistency across the country."

R.D. James, assistant secretary of the U.S. Army

Columbia and U.S. territories while the 1980s-era regulations were in

place in 27 states.

President Barack Obama's Waters of the

United States rule had defined which streams and wetlands are protected by the 1972 Clean Water Act from pollutants including pesticides, fertilizers and mine waste. Farmers and industry groups had said the rule went too far, impeding their operations by extending restrictions to small, un-navigable waters.

California's Attorney General Xavier Becerra, who has led dozens of lawsuits against Trump administration policy rollbacks, said on Thursday his state is "prepared to defend" the Obama clean water rule because its rescission would remove many California waters from federal protection.

Several governors, such as North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum, welcomed the announcement, saying it recognized "states' ability to manage their own waters."

Environmental groups have said the Obama rule was necessary to protect drinking water sources at risk from agri-business and industry.

Earthjustice and other environmental groups on Thursday warned that the Trump administration's repeal will threaten drinking water and weaken safeguards that help reduce flooding and filter out pollution from streams and wetlands.

REUTERS

Gap's Old Navy plans to nearly double its store count

2 Old Navy brand plans to nearly double its store count in North America as the apparel retailer readies itself to split from the parent company next year. As a standalone company, Old Navy, which offers more affordable clothing and accessories, plans to open 860 stores in North America and said it would focus on opening outlets in smaller markets and off-mall locations. Old Navy, which recorded net sales of about \$8 billion in 2018 and ended the

year with 1,140 locations, said with the new store openings it plans to reach more than \$10 billion in annual sales in the long term. Earlier this year, Gap announced that it would spin off the Old Navy brand, a bright spot for the struggling retailer, into a publicly listed company. "What separation does for us is allows us to have the focus we need to deliver with confidence this strategy which we know is the right one," Old Navy CEO Sonia Syngal said. REUTERS

DOJ to release name of accused aide in 9/11 attacks

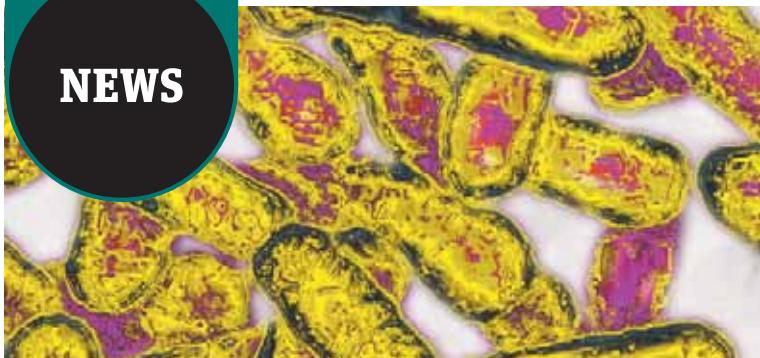
3 The U.S. Justice Department on Thursday said it would release the name of an individual sought by people who are suing the government of Saudi Arabia for alleged involvement in the Sept. 11, 2001, hijacking attacks. U.S. prosecutors in New York said in a court filing that Attorney General William Barr had decided not to invoke state secrets and will share the person's name with attorneys involved in the case. The decision could

help victims of the Sept. 11 attacks and their family members, who charge in a long-running lawsuit that the Saudi government supported the hijackers who crashed jet liners into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and a Pennsylvania field, killing nearly 3,000 people. The Saudi government has repeatedly denied involvement in the attacks. The Saudi embassy in Washington did not immediately respond to requests for comment on Thursday. REUTERS

Calif. bans facial recognition for police body cameras

4 California's legislature on Thursday passed a three-year ban on state and local law enforcement from using body cameras with facial recognition software, the latest curb on technology that some say poses a threat to civil liberties. The State Assembly voted 42-18 for the bill. It will now head to Gov. Gavin Newsom's desk for signing or a veto, and it would take effect on Jan. 1, 2020. The legislation prohibits officers from running

facial recognition in real time or after the fact on footage collected by body cameras. However, police still may use the technology to blur faces in videos disclosed to the public, in order to protect individuals' privacy. "If you install software onto those body cameras, then you run the risk of really destroying [public] trust," Assembly-member Phil Ting, the bill's sponsor, told reporters. "It becomes a tool of surveillance, which was never the goal." REUTERS



Microscopic image of Legionella bacteria.

GETTY IMAGES

2 Cases of Legionnaires' discovered in Bronx apartment building

The New York City Department of Health released precautions for residents in a Bronx apartment complex.



BECCA GLASSER-BAKER
Rebecca.Glasser@metro.us

A Bronx apartment complex is being investigated by the New York City Department of Health since two people contracted Legionnaires' disease.

ABC reports there was a meeting held notifying residents who live at Tracey Towers on West Mosholu Parkway.

The Health Department describes Legionnaires' disease as a type of pneumonia caused by bacteria (Legionella) that grow in warm water. Legionnaires' disease causes flu-like symptoms, and complications from the disease can be fatal.

According to the Health Department, people can get the dis-

ease by "breathing in water vapor containing the bacteria from sources such as cooling towers, showers and hot tubs," although those who are sick can't pass it to others.

People who are at high risk for disease include people over 50, smokers, those who suffer from chronic lung disease, have weakened immune systems or take medications that weaken the immune system.

Some symptoms of this disease can include chills, coughs, muscle aches, fevers, headaches, loss of appetite, confusion, diarrhea, or fatigue. Health officials advise that anyone experiencing these symptoms should seek medical attention right away.

There is nothing that can prevent the disease, but the best way to decrease risks is by checking the water systems.

ABC reported that tenants can still use and drink the water, but those at higher risk should be taking on additional precautions.

Additional precautions to take



Don't take a shower, even a cool shower, since it could create water vapor (mist). Instead, take a bath, but fill the tub slowly. Try to minimize your time in the bathroom while the tub is filling.



It's fine to wash dishes, but fill the sink slowly to avoid creating mist.



It's fine to drink cold water from the tap, but start with cold water when heating water for tea, coffee or cooking.



Tenants do not need to wear a mask.



It is important to continue to wash your hands.

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BRIEF

Body found wrapped in a rug on Harlem street

A Harlem resident stumbled upon a gruesome discovery early Thursday when they came across the body of a dead man, wrapped in a rolled-up carpet and tossed among the trash on a curb.

The pedestrian spotted a pair of feet sticking out of a red carpet outside of a Harlem Starbucks on West 145th Street, according to the New York Daily News. The person dialed 911.

Officials were working Thursday to identify the body, which was clothed. NBC reported that the deceased is believed to be approximately in his 20s or 30s; he was wearing gray pants and a T-shirt. They also stated it is not clear how long he had been dead.

Investigators believe the man was likely killed elsewhere, and dumped there.

There were no apparent wounds or bruises on the body. An autopsy will be performed to determine the cause of death.

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Free cannolis are passed out at the 85th annual Feast of San Gennaro festival September 15, 2011. GETTY IMAGES

A guide to Little Italy's 93rd annual Feast of San Gennaro

What began as a one-day event has grown to 11 days.

6SQFT / DEVIN GANNON
letters@metro.us

Over a million people are expected to flock to Manhattan's Little Italy neighborhood this week as the Feast of San Gennaro officially kicks off. The 11-day celebration began in 1926 as a way for immigrants in New York to maintain the Italian tradition of honoring the patron saint of Naples, Saint Januarius, with a feast every September. While the makeup of Little Italy has evolved over the last century, shrinking in size from 30 blocks to about nine, the Feast of San Gennaro remains one of New York City's most popular events. Ahead, get a taste for all things Italian with our guide to one of the city's largest street fairs, from the history of the iconic event to cannoli-eating contests and religious processions.

Starting in the late 19th century, immigrants settled in Lower Manhattan, with communities from various Italian villages putting roots down on different city blocks. According to Walks of New York, Italian Americans made up 17 percent of the city's population by 1930.

Following World War II, Little Italy residents left the crowded quarters of Manhattan for more spacious digs in Brooklyn, New Jersey, and on Staten

Island. The neighborhood later became home to a large population of Chinese immigrants after a 1965 federal policy made it easier to migrate to the United States.

As the size of Manhattan's Little Italy continued to get smaller, with roughly 1,000 residents of Italian ancestry reported in 2000, a nonprofit formed to keep the traditions of the old neighborhood alive. Thanks to the Figli di San Gennaro, Inc., which has organized the feast since 1996, the Feast of San Gennaro has preserved a significant part of the Italian experience in New York City.

In the beginning, celebrations like the Feast of San Gennaro provided a sense of place and pride for many Italian immigrants in the U.S. What began as a one-day religious event in 1926 has grown into an 11-day festival of food, carnival games, music, and more, attracting both tourists and New Yorkers alike.

Mass & processions: The Feast began Thursday with the Blessing of the Stands, with Msgr. David Cassato blessing each stall of vendors along Mulberry Street.

The grand procession kicks off on Saturday, Sept. 14, at 2 p.m. with live music from the Red Mike Festival Band. The grand marshal is Steve Schirripa, the Brooklyn-born actor who played Bobby Baccalieri on "The

Sopranos."

On Sept. 19, the solemn high mass honoring the patron Saint of Naples is at 6 p.m. It will be held at the Shrine Church of the Most Precious Blood at 113 Baxter Street. After mass, there will be a religious procession with the statue of San Gennaro.

Eating contests:

• The 22nd annual cannoli-eating contest kicks off at 1 p.m. on Sept. 13.

• For the first time ever, there will be a zeppole-eating contest. It will be held on Sept. 18 at 1 p.m.

• A meatball-eating competition is on Sept. 21 at 1 p.m.

Can't-miss food vendors, restaurants & shops of Little Italy:

• Lucy's Sausage Stand for sausage and peppers

• Caffe Napoli on Mulberry Street

• Mulberry Street Cigars

• Ferrara Bakery & Cafe for Italian nougat candy, torrone

• Umberto's Clam House for signature clam dish and celebrity sightings

• Alleva Dairy, the country's oldest cheese store

This story was provided to Metro through an agreement with 6sqft. For a full list of activities during the Feast, visit www.6sqft.com.

House Judiciary votes to ramp up impeachment probe



U.S. House Judiciary Committee Chairman Nadler leads Democratic members of the committee in a statement to reporters. REUTERS

The Democratic-led U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee voted to intensify its investigation of Republican President Donald Trump on Thursday, as lawmakers edged closer to deciding whether to recommend his impeachment.

The 41-member panel adopted a resolution allowing it to designate hearings as impeachment proceedings, subjecting witnesses to more aggressive questioning and quickening the pace of an investigation that is expanding into areas that could prove politically explosive for both

impeachment of Trump as a politically risky step for moderate Democratic freshmen from swing districts where ousting the president is an unpopular idea.

"Democrats have never gotten over the fact that I won the Election very fairly," Trump said in a statement posted to his Facebook page hours after the vote.

"If they go down the path of impeachment they will be dividing the nation! So ridiculous to even be talking about this subject when all of the crimes were committed by the other side,"

Republicans said Democrats lacked the votes to obtain formal House authorization and denounced Thursday's action as a show intended to pander to Democratic voters who want Trump removed from office.

Rep. Doug Collins,

"With these new procedures, we will begin next week an aggressive series of hearings investigating allegations of corruption, obstruction and abuse of power against the president."

Jerrold Nadler

Trump and Congress.

"With these new procedures, we will begin next week an aggressive series of hearings investigating allegations of corruption, obstruction and abuse of power against the president," House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler told reporters after a 24-17 vote along party lines.

A more aggressive probe could also increase pressure on House Democratic leaders including Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who has resisted

the president said.

Trump and his Republican allies charge that former U.S. Special Counsel Robert Mueller's probe into Russian interference in the 2016 election and the Trump campaign's possible collusion stemmed from an earlier effort to sink his candidacy, and later his presidency, by former officials at the Justice Department.

Republican lawmakers rejected the notion that the panel was pursuing an impeachment inquiry and dismissed

the panel's top Republican, said the resolution simply reiterates powers that the committee has had all along.

"These rules are not new," he said. "This is to make you believe something is happening, more than what's actually happening."

A Reuters head count shows that 135 House Democrats back an impeachment inquiry. While that is a majority of the caucus, the number is well short of the 218 votes needed to pass a resolution. REUTERS



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Dozens of CEOs call on Senate to tackle gun violence: Reports

More than 100 chief executives of some of the nation's most well-known companies on Thursday called on the U.S. Senate to take action to tackle gun violence, including expanding background checks and strengthening so-called red flag laws, according to media reports.

In a letter to lawmakers, 145 company heads urged meaningful action following a string of mass shootings across the United States that have most recently left communities reeling in Texas, Ohio, Nevada and South Carolina.

"Doing nothing about America's gun violence crisis is simply unacceptable and it is time to stand with the American public on gun safety," the letter to the Republican-led U.S. Senate said, according to the New York Times, which first reported the correspondence.

Those signing the misive include the heads of



People pay their respects a day after a mass shooting in El Paso.

struggled to address gun violence after the 2012 killing of 26 people, including 20 children, at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut stoked debate over gun control in America.

More mass shootings followed, including at a church in South Carolina, a music festival in Las Vegas and a high school in Florida. This summer, shootings in Dayton, Ohio, and El Paso, Texas — including in a Walmart — sparked fresh debate.

Walmart Inc. and other stores have since called on patrons not to openly carry firearms in their stores, prompting protests from opponents who object to curbing gun rights.

The U.S. House of Representatives, led by Democrats, quickly took up measures addressing gun violence as lawmakers returned to Washington this week. These include three bills that seek to remove guns from people deemed a risk, ban high-capacity ammunition magazines and prohibit people convicted of

violent hate crime misdemeanors from possessing firearms.

145

Company heads urged meaningful action following a string of mass shootings across the United States.

The Senate, led by President Donald Trump's fellow Republicans, has so far stayed on the sidelines, with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell looking to the White House for guidance.

On Wednesday, a bipartisan group of U.S. senators said they wanted to revive a failed 2013 bill to close loopholes on the law requiring gun sale background checks, but it remained unclear whether Trump would support it.

Polls have shown that nearly half of all Americans expect another mass shooting to happen soon in the United States.

REUTERS

Gap Inc., Levi Strauss & Co., and Dick's Sporting Goods Inc. They also included Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd., Uber Technologies Inc., Twitter Inc., and Amalgamated

Bank, among others.

"We are writing to you because we have a responsibility and obligation to stand up for the safety of our employees, customers and all Ameri-

cans in the communities we serve across the country," they said, according to the Times. The Washington Post also reported the letter.

Lawmakers have

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Prosecutor will pursue death penalty for El Paso mass-shooting suspect

A Texas grand jury on Thursday indicted the man accused of killing 22 people and wounding 26 others in a shooting last month at a Walmart in El Paso, Texas, who had told authorities he was targeting Mexicans, a local prosecutor said.

Patrick Crusius, 21, was indicted for capital murder and will face the death penalty if he is convicted, El Paso County District Attorney Jaime Esparza said in a statement.

"The District Attorney's Office will continue to work hard to ensure that justice is done and is committed to assisting the victims through the judicial process," Esparza said.

Crusius is accused of driving 11 hours from his hometown of Allen, Texas, near Dallas, to El Paso on Aug. 3 and firing at shoppers with an AK47 rifle inside a

Walmart store, after which he surrendered to officers who confronted him outside the store.

Crusius confessed while surrendering and told police he was targeting Mexicans, ac-

tic invasion of Texas."

After the indictment against Crusius was announced, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott released a 14-page report detailing several recommendations on how to stop mass shootings in the

of our society."

The Texas killings were followed just 13 hours later by a mass shooting in Dayton, Ohio, where a gunman wearing body armor and a mask killed nine people in less than a minute and wounded 27 others in the city's downtown historic district before he was shot dead by police.

The two massacres have reverberated across the political arena, with Democratic presidential candidates calling for stricter gun laws and accusing President Donald Trump of stoking anti-immigrant tensions.

The indictment against Crusius will not be available to the public until it has been filed by the District Clerk's Office. By law, the clerk's office has 10 days to file the indictment, a spokeswoman for Esparza said. REUTERS

"Solving the problems that have led to these horrific events will take more than governmental action."

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott

state.

"Solving the problems that have led to these horrific events will take more than governmental action," Abbott, a Republican, said in a statement. "It will require parents, families, churches, law enforcement, community groups, schools and others working together to fortify the social fabric

cording to an El Paso police affidavit released days after the shooting.

Most of those killed were Hispanic.

A four-page statement believed to have been written by the suspect and posted on 8chan, an online message board often used by extremists, called the Walmart attack "a response to the Hispan-



Patrick Crusius. REUTERS

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CATALINA KULCZAR

David Byrne talks creating an 'American Utopia' on Broadway

The former Talking Heads singer will find a temporary home at the Hudson Theater starting next month.

PAT KING

When you think of David Byrne, you generally don't associate such a singular and ambitious artist as being someone who eases into their mornings. But, as the man told me over the phone, he likes to take his time in bed before facing each day.

"I'll have the beginnings of breakfast, like a grapefruit and coffee, in bed while I read the newspapers and maybe answer a few emails," the instantly recognizable voice proclaimed on the other end of the line. "I kind of start off that way and then I'll get up and start doing things — probably make a real breakfast and all of that kind of stuff. I'll wake up early, but I'll work in bed for about an hour."

I caught up with the former Talking Heads singer-songwriter, author, and champion of creativity to discuss his upcoming

"David Byrne's American Utopia" residency on Broadway that will bring his recent highly successful and acclaimed tour to the Hudson Theater for 16 weeks starting on Oct. 4.

Your new Broadway show, "American Utopia," is an extension of your past tour. What made you decide to give this show a temporary home on Broadway instead of letting that tour exist for what it was?

It wasn't my idea to do a Broadway show. It came from Broadway people — producers and people like that — who saw the show and said, "This needs to go to Broadway." They planted the seed in my head. But for me, I thought it would be interesting. Here's a challenge. This will be a very different kind of audience that comes with a different set of expectations and baggage and things like that. It's not going to be a typical concert audience, so we will have to adjust the show accordingly. So in the process, we would reach a different audience. An audience that may not come to Forest

Hills or King's Theater in Brooklyn. There's plenty of those. Some of them are friends of mine, who ... they just don't go to "music" concerts like that. But, they'll go to Broadway. I thought, there's a fair number of people who I think might really like this show but wouldn't initially go see it in the places where we would normally play. Then, also, there's the challenge of adapting it a little bit.

What are some of those challenges? Does it feel different now that you are clocking into a temporary office with this show?

It's a more intimate setting than what we're used to so we have to adjust our performance appropriately. To do that, some of our rather big, huge gestures are scaled down a little bit and have to be more precise. But the big change for me, I sensed when we were doing the concert tour that there was kind of an underlying narrative that was emerging in the show. I thought, for Broadway, this would be the oppor-

tunity to bring that out a little more. That's what I've been doing. There are a few little more talking bits that help connect the dots and help the audience see what I think is inherent in the show.

One thing that both this new live show and the "Stop Making Sense" concert film have in common is that you show the audience where every piece of sound is coming from in a deconstructed way. It helps to heighten the experience by combining both the audio and the visual. Do you find beauty in letting the audience in on the secret in that way?

Yeah! I think it's counter-intuitive, when you let people in on the secret, it's like an illusion or something like that. It doesn't spoil the trick. In fact, it sometimes kind of even deepens it. Because the music has the same effect on people even when you show them how it's done. It's not like, "Oh, you've spoiled it now."

It also creates a sense of community, right?

Yes, that's a big part for me. That people witness

the community of the band and it becomes more evident when everything gets stripped away. It becomes more apparent.

You could say you are doing a similar effort with your "Reasons to Be Cheerful" online magazine where you wanted a safe haven for people to start at a neutral zone before hearing the terrible news of the day. Did you have a final straw before wanting to do something positive?

I don't know what the final straw was. But it was probably two, maybe three years ago now that I started collecting things that gave me a little bit of hope. I thought, "Oh look, maybe things aren't totally going to hell?" There are counter-things that are being created across the world and are succeeding. Maybe as a kind of self-therapy, I thought "Okay, I have to remember that." Because reading all of the headlines is going to get me really depressed and turn me into a cynical cranky person. I thought, I don't want that to happen."

Let's start putting things out because maybe other people need to hear this stuff, too. They're probably feeling the same way that I am.

I'm curious about how you approach and what gets you excited about creating. Do you find you are a one-track-minded artist or that you need to constantly be doing a million things at once?

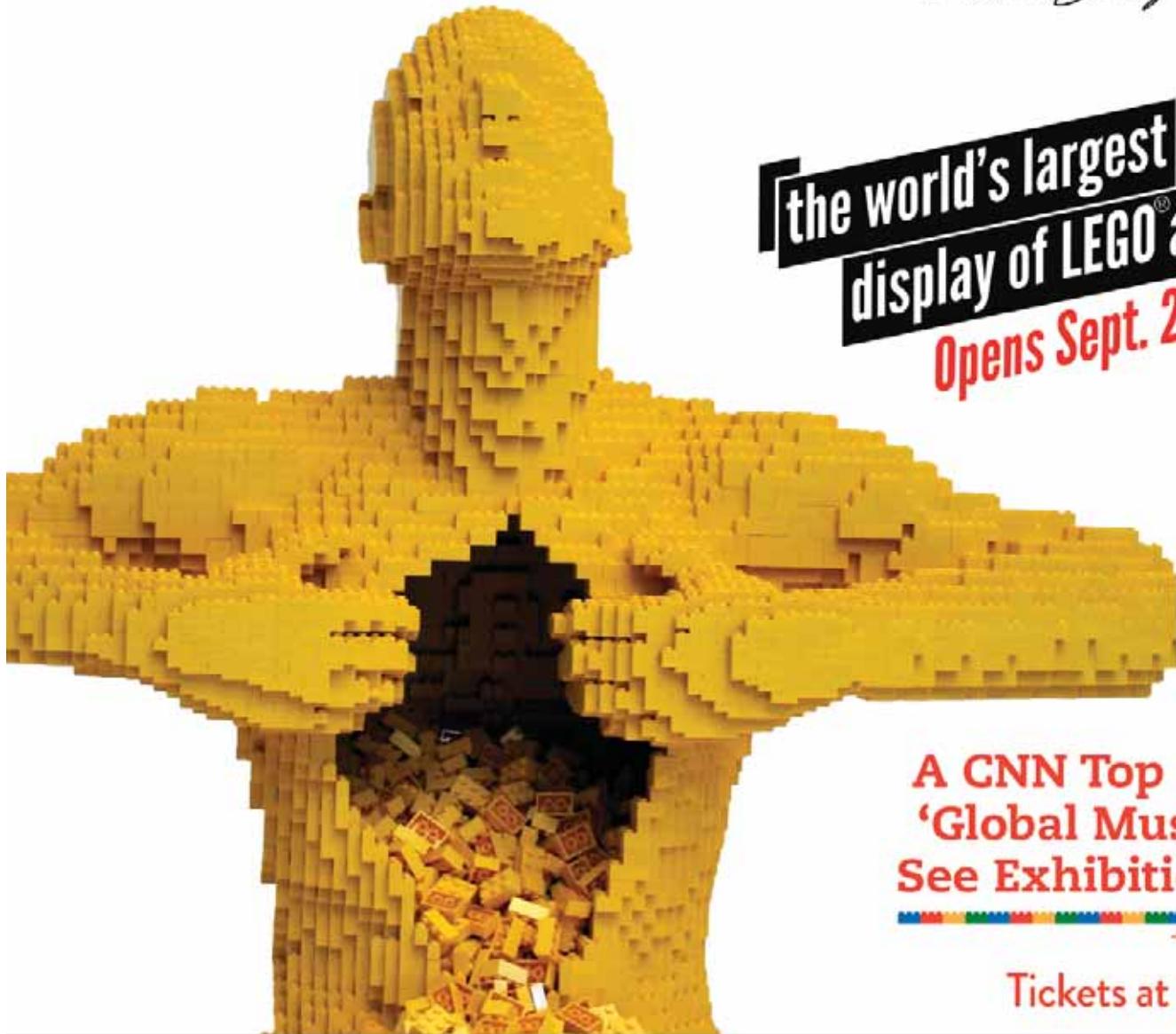
I find that inevitably one has to have different irons in the fire. Like right now, I'm really primarily focused on this show. But, there are talks and discussions and emails about this and that. And, some things just take longer to come to fruition and you can't rush them. So, focusing all of your energy and attention on one thing doesn't make it go any faster [laughs]. It's better to let that take its time and keep checking in and moving it ahead as much as you can in whatever way it wants to go. I find I end up keeping a few things simmering.

For more information on tickets, head to americanutopiaonbroadway.com.

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Director Bong Joon-ho's 'Parasite' takes a vicious look at what lies beneath

The famous filmmaker holds no punches in his riveting new film. **JAMES CASE**

The chief concern of "Parasite" is the class difference between two families. The Kims live in the low reaches of the city slum, each family member unemployed as they fend for scraps. The Parks live in a tasteful home on top of the hill and are comfortably wealthy: Mr. Park is the breadwinner and Mrs. Park is preoccupied with her young son and seems to not be the sharpest knife in the drawer.

Their lives connect when the Kim's college-aged son tells a white lie to get a job tutoring for the Parks' teenaged daughter. As further deceptions, plots, false pretenses and outright frauds

are committed, the entire Kim family has supplanted the preexisting service staff with false identities. The Parks are clueless that their entirely new servants are a family. But it's only at the midway point when the Parks leave the house for a long weekend do the Kims receive an unexpected guest and a big surprise.

Audiences familiar with director Bong Joon-ho's films ("Okja," "Snowpiercer," "The Host") should have an expectation of the tone of "Parasite." It contains elements of drama, action, suspense and—most deftly utilized here—black comedy. The Kims' financial situation has forced their hand; they're taking the best opportunity they can, as any capitalist purist would advocate. The Kims' only degrees of morality apply

to their own family. Their situation compels them to usurp the existing people relying on the Kims for their own money—people from their own financial stratum. The Parks are oblivious, myopically focused on their own situation (not unlike the Kims') and sedated with the degrees of comfort. At times, they literally cannot perceive the activities of their service staff as they are right under their noses.

There are particular images and concepts within "Parasite" that afterwards remind you that underneath the service, things can have other meanings: a flashing light, a rock the space underneath a piece of furniture, or even just a peach can take on a different context. And it all implies the greater commentary the movie is offering: that our



class predispositions orient and in large part dictate how we see the world, and that we can be utterly, wholly ignorant of things of great significance. We like to think that we can change our class or improve our footing in society, but that would imply we can inherently change who we are.

"Parasite" is at its best when it functions as a sleight of hand. It's not to say the plot has misleading or story lines rife with misdirection. The sleight of hand works best when it becomes apparent that the themes at play are often not the themes we are seeing play out on-screen

between the characters. The message is indirect, disarming and ambiguous. A lesser director or writer, likely an American towing to certain sensibilities, wouldn't let the story of Parasite unfold or end the way it does.

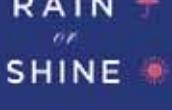
At a certain point, an immense rainstorm hits the city. The slum becomes flooded. The Kims hadn't locked up their basement squat, having recently spent so much time at the Park residence. Their neighborhood is devastated. The sewage water in their unit goes from their hips to their necks in short order. Their home is ruined and the

toilet is sputtering brown water. The forces of nature are relentless and have trickling effects beyond our senses. Joon-ho's narrative deeply knows the cumulative effect that our daily conditions have on how we make our decisions. Each character's decisions are relatable and understandable, whether it's an outburst of violence or the effects of a series of slights and insults. The notion of free will feels minimized when seeing that sometimes there really is only one choice to be made. Seeing "Parasite" should be one of those.

"Parasite" hits theaters Oct. 11.

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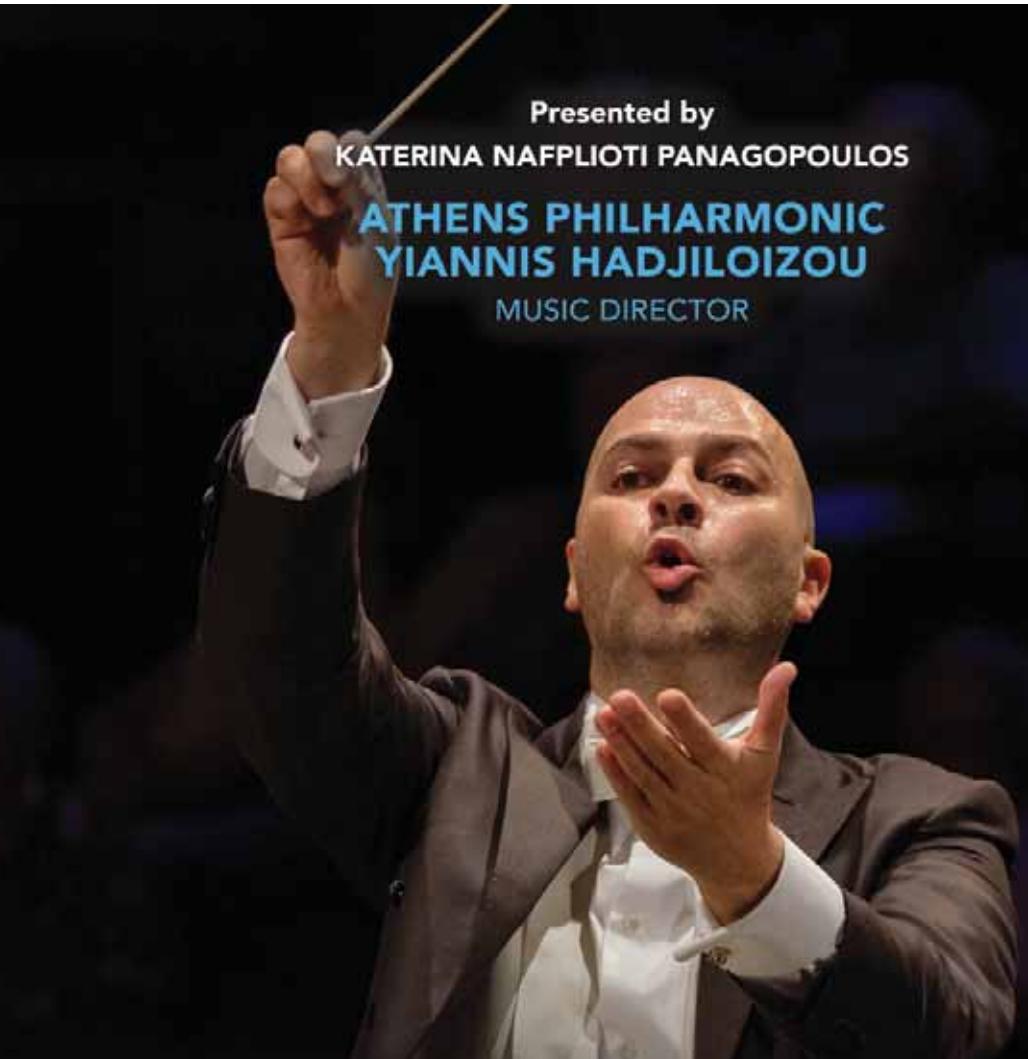
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Peter Sarsgaard and director Michael Tyburski on the deafening 'Sound of Silence'

We spoke with the actor and filmmaker ahead of the film's premiere this weekend. **PAT KING**

As humans, there's a strange optimism within us that believes we will eventually be able to pinpoint that one small thing that is responsible for the anguish in our lives. It could be your star sign, it has to be. Many of us, at this point, are at the end of our ropes searching for some sort of signpost that we can look to. Sometimes we just need an explanation, no matter how far-fetched, and we can fill in the gaps later. This new film, "The Sound of Silence," starring Peter Sarsgaard, follows a scientist — a self-proclaimed "house-tuner" — who cures New Yorkers of their depression by eliminating unpleasing sounds emitted from their environments.

The scientist, Peter Lucien, is a man blessed with perfect pitch but also cursed with being too aware of the out-of-tune symphony that is New York. He spends his days dropping by apartments all over the city, with tuning forks in tow, advising his clients to toss out their

toasters and other appliances to make way for the existing notes of their neighborhoods. Of course, this knowledge all comes with a price and it is a faucet he cannot shut off now that it has been opened. This a huge problem as he is introduced to a new client and possible love interest, Ellen, played by Rashida Jones.

The film was helmed by first-time director Michael Tyburski and based on a short film he had written with Ben Nabors. While the subject matter can ring close to home for those of us trying to make sense of our looming feelings of isolation and dread, the film is deeply funny for those who recognize that kind of desperation.

"It was strange and funny, and also seemed like something I could really relate to," says Sarsgaard, on reading the script for the film. "I mean, I lived both in Vermont and in Brooklyn. Actually, I live in a part of Vermont that's where I never ever hear a human sound. So I've lived in a very remote part of Vermont, and I lived in one of the biggest cities in the world. So this is something that I'm always confronted with, and it definitely changes my mood."

Not just a lot of sound or a little bit of sound, but what kind of sound. I was also interested in this idea that people are trying to look for what ails them in the most peculiar places these days and I think throughout history. This idea that if something external that is upsetting the internal you, and of course — I mean not of course; maybe to some people, but for me — ultimately it's something that's inside of you that's giving you problems. It's not the rainy day or the construction outside, it's the stuff going on inside of you. So I thought it was an interesting idea for the modern world and also for the city that I love and have lived in for so long where it's obviously deeply rooted."

To Tyburski, the complexities around Peter Lucien's desire to help people and his plight of not being able to shut out the world around him was something he found deeply interesting.

"I like to think that the clients that go to Peter, they've tried it all. They've been around the block by the time they reach him," Tyburski explains. "But he's an interesting character to me because he's working on this very



"For me, ultimately it's something that's inside of you that's giving you problems. It's not the rainy day or the construction outside, it's the stuff going on inside of you."

Peter Sarsgaard

personal thing of his, right? He's trying to get published, he believes he's discovered something. But at the end of the day, he also is interested in helping people. He's got a very dry personality, and ironically somewhat can't connect with people himself, but I like the idea that yeah, he ultimately does want to help people. He feels like he has an answer, and wants to go about doing that, and isn't doing it for money or anything like that. Just to serve that purpose and also his own endeavors. But there's also that theme of sometimes it's the person who is giving help who needs the most help. And there is this interesting play that I like between him and the Rashida Jones character. That she ultimately seeks him out but becomes that role reversal, where she becomes a therapist in the end to the person she hired to help her, which I thought was interesting."

As someone who has lived both a life of curiosity as well as a musical life, Sarsgaard could relate deeply to his character and

the film, as our conversation veered off topic into a discussion about jamming with Ornette Coleman. But ultimately, he was thrilled to have worked with Tyburski, whom he believes is an exciting new voice in cinema.

"I'm always interested in working with someone who is a bright fresh new talent," says Sarsgaard of working with Tyburski. "I mean really, really that is like a mission for me and when I met him and looked at what he had done and talked to him about this project and what his influences were and everything. He is a rarity in that he is a really pure artist. Obviously your first movie out, a lot of people would make a movie that was a version of 'When Harry Met Sally' or a horror film or something like that, but I really admired the guts that this guy had of making this his first movie out and it is so wild and unconventional. I have great respect for him."

"The Sound of Silence" opens in select theaters today.



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Actress Zawe Ashton on living with 'Betrayal' on Broadway

The actress stars alongside Tom Hiddleston and Charlie Cox in the Harold Pinter classic. **PAT KING**

To act in a Harold Pinter play night after night is like a re-examination of your entire fabric. Renowned British actress and playwright Zawe Ashton knows this firsthand as she is currently starring in Pinter's masterpiece, "Betrayal," alongside Tom Hiddleston and Charlie Cox on Broadway at the Bernard B. Jacobs Theatre.

This new staging of the play, which had a hugely successful run in London's West End, follows Zawe's character, Emma, as she is trying to navigate keeping a long-lasting secret affair with her friend Jerry (Cox) from her husband Robert (Hiddleston). The three characters are the only points of focus for the show, and the innovative staging keeps all of the show's actors on-stage, even if they are not

in the scene to keep the specter of shame looming in the air at all times. I asked Ashton if being so immersed in such a heavy and emotive work can be all-encompassing.

"I would say so, yes," said Ashton with a laugh, as I caught her on a rare day off from being completely immersed in the play.

"Funnily enough, it's the first day that I'm coming down with the 'Betrayal Bug,'" she adds, "which is having done 110 shows in London and experiencing what it was like with the opening and the previews and getting into a space where you're settling into the play in a very different way, you realize what a toll it takes on your nervous system. How Pinter's words are very visceral to say and to experience. I don't know many other playwrights quite like him in that sense. It feels like you constantly have two rivers flowing in opposite directions inside of you. It's like one is flowing upwards with all of the in-



CONOR CLINCH

tense emotion that is underneath his words. There is a river that flows down which is about keeping a lid on all of that. Which is what he is so famous for, this incredible repression and simmering to his language and certainly to the character he creates. Weirdly enough, that is 'Betrayal' and that's certainly what my character is going through. So when you find yourself in one

of Harold's most personal works and find yourself in a situation where the characters that he has written and the style he writes in are completely fused, it's a very, very potent mix. We're just so grateful people are responding in the way that they are."

The whole production came as a surprise, as both Ashton and Hiddleston staged a scene from the play as a part of director

Jamie Lloyd's Pinter at the Pinter festival. From there, the rest was history, as they say.

"The whole evening was hugely electric," Ashton remembers of the night. "We just happened to hit on something that people responded to. People started to ask us if we were, in fact, in rehearsals for 'Betrayal' [laughs] ... Suddenly, that evening started to turn into this incredible sort of stew of ideas and thinking about what it would be like to do 'Betrayal' and find the perfect jury and have it be a way to close the season.

I say it was my idea, but everyone else that was involved that evening says it was their idea! It happened very organically and the fact that the three of us were in the same place at the same time is just unheard of. Charlie Cox had his show, 'Daredevil,' canceled just in time to get on a plane to London and do the play. It all came together in a very magical way, and that feeling of magic has followed through the

whole process."

Outside of "Betrayal," Ashton is set to release her debut novel, "Character Breakdown" and to stage her own play, "For All Women Who Thought They Were Mad" at the Soho Repertory Theatre just across town this fall.

"I don't know what kind of mischievous sprite is at work at the moment, in regard to all of the different plates that I am spinning," says Ashton. "I think working on a piece by Harold Pinter who was as committed to acting as well as writing kind of gave me confidence. Because he would be in his own plays and absolutely keep up with the acting part of his creativity as well as the writing. I honestly have been in a very deep love affair with Harold. I think even more than the boys I'm with! I have just found so many aspects of his character and of his ethos have inspired me so hugely."

For tickets to "Betrayal," head to betrayalonbroadway.com.



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'The Goldfinch' is a cinematic rarity

Metro chatted with director John Crowley about the new complicated studio drama for adults. **GREGORY WAKEMAN, MWN**

As an adaptation of a Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, "The Goldfinch" was always going to stand out. But it is even more distinctive in the current cinematic climate, where superheroes, sequels and remakes dominate. In fact, "The Goldfinch" is a true modern movie rarity: a complicated studio drama for adults. And that's

exactly what attracted director John Crowley to it.

Crowley originally read Donna Tartt's unique story of 13-year-old Theo stealing a lucrative painting from an art museum in the immediate aftermath of a terrorist attack his mother died in for pleasure during production on his Oscar-nominated drama "Brooklyn." But Crowley was instantly mesmerized by Tartt's "very original study in grief."

"Theo holds on to this object because he misses his mother. But it is a priceless work of art, and he becomes more and more of a criminal the longer he keeps hold of it," Crowley



Oakes Fegley plays the younger Theo. "The Goldfinch" is released Sept. 12. **WARNER BROS**

tells Metro. "That speaks to a self-created shame that he has, and how he feels responsible for his mother's death. There was just a huge amount of visual possibilities with it. But it was still an intimate story about someone struggling with the death of someone close to them."

After being "moved and excited by the material," Crowley officially knew he had to make "The Goldfinch" after he became "scared s—less" but the thought of doing so.

"I need to think I am

going to make a terrible film," he says. "That's what gets me up in the morning."

But while Crowley was repeatedly told "The Goldfinch" "would be better off as a 10-hour-long miniseries" for television, he was adamant about making it for the big screen.

"It is rather depressing that the middle ground in cinema has been completed ceded to television," he explains. "The pressure of having to tell this story in one sitting of two-and-a-half hours, which is admittedly long, on a big screen

meant that we had to lean into different aspects to try and make them as cinematic as possible and make the experience as exciting and thoughtful as possible, too. Because the ecosystem now, where there are so many superhero films, is pretty thin. There are no complicated dramas for adults made by studios."

Crowley noticed how his collaborators, which included Academy Award-winning cinematographer Roger Deakins and Oscar-nominated writer Peter Straughan, all had a great hunger to repli-

cate the spirit of the great character-driven films of the 1970s with "The Goldfinch." For Oakes Fegley, who plays the younger version to Ansel Elgort's Theo, this meant some rather heavy days of production.

"It took a toll on me doing such heavy, emotional material," Fegley tells Metro, while insisting that Crowley's quietness and composure made for a creative and safe set. "Offset, I was exhausted emotionally. You have to deal with all your real-life stuff as well as someone else's emotional weight."

Ultimately, though, Fegley believes this toil and the emotional weight of both Tartt's novel and Crowley's take on "The Goldfinch" will make a huge impact on those that see it.

"I want people to recognize that there are a lot of things that can change you. And to be aware of what can change you. Because Theo changes at multiple points in the film. Each person he meets changes the way he thinks about himself and the way he looks at life. I want audiences to understand and comprehend that."

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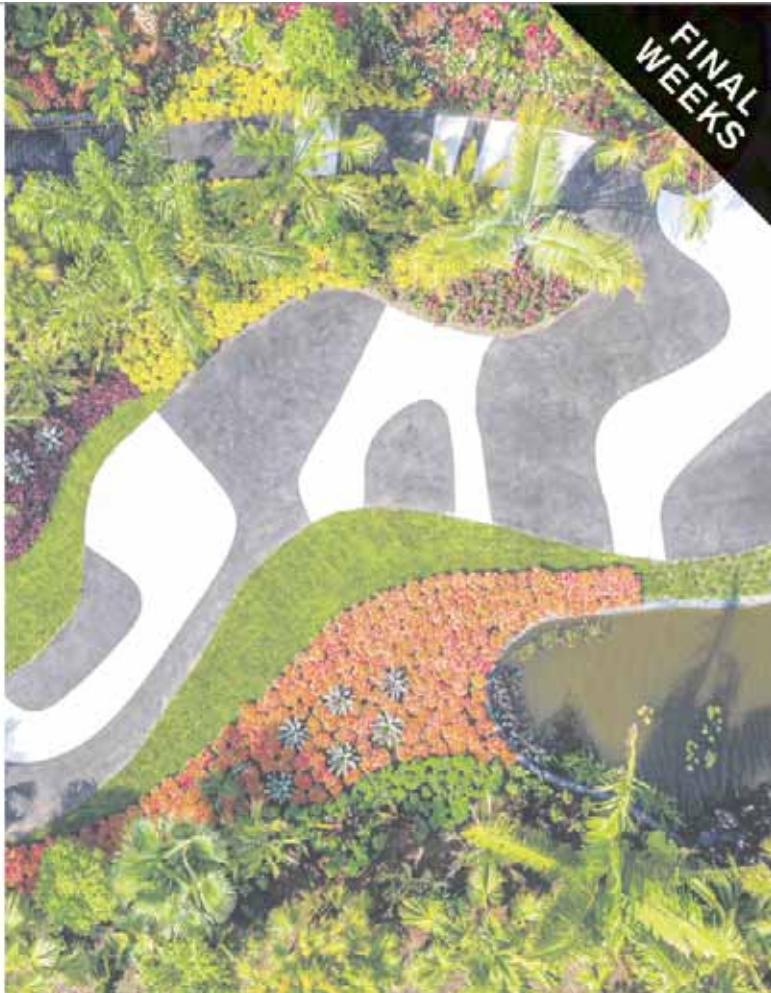
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Andrew Bird on being cast in season 4 of 'Fargo' and his 'Finest Work Yet'

The multi-talented musician will be in town next week.

PAT KING

Andrew Bird seems like the type of person who would let you know when he has made his masterpiece. In a way, that's exactly what he has done with the title of his newest album, "My Finest Work Yet." Although the declaration is delivered with a slow wink, coupled with the cover art photo of Bird as the depleted artiste reclining after just writing a work that is bound for glory. But while this may be all in jest, there is some strange premonition to this preemptive branding. The truth is, he was right from the start. This is his best album to date.

Bird's musicianship and lyricism are in top form this time around,



AMANDA DEMME

with songs that reflect the turbulent times we are in, all through his unique lens. When he gets it right, being immersed within his work can feel like audio decadence. And with "My Finest Work," it feels like we are witnessing a master at the height of his craft. The quality of the record feels as though you are in the room with a voyeuristic perspective of Bird and his band working each song out.

"I've always been trying to close the gap between the live performance and studio," he says of the albums' crackling live energy. "I feel like it's really hard for me to make records that live up to the live show. And it's not as simple as just recording live, but that is essentially what this record is. This is a very carefully planned live performance, the vocals are live... the whole band is in the room. If you solo on any one microphone or one instrument you hear the rest of the band in that microphone."

If you have been a fan of Bird's career, you'd agree with him that a live setting is really where his songs really bleed out like ink in water. A classically trained violinist, an acerbic singer, and one of the most identifiable whistlers in all of recorded music, Bird can build songs towards titanic

verge on surrealist poetry with a playful sense of rhythm aided by his rich and effortless vocal delivery. But this time around, Bird explains that he had another approach to staying on topic with his normal approach of stream of consciousness lyric writing.

"The less I am aware of what I'm trying to say the better it is, generally," he explains. "Or if I can postpone having to deal with what the songs about as long as possible. That's a good thing. I always keep it on the back burner, in the back of my head and remind myself okay, when I've gone on some sort of phonetic fanciful thing, wordplay thing. I'm like okay wait I know I have a sense of what I'm trying to say here especially with this new record. I had more pointed things I wanted to get across so I was reminding myself more often than usual to stay on track, on subject."

Bird is currently on tour through the rest of the year but will take time to pursue an unlikely artistic shift as an actor in the 4th season of Noah Hawley's "Fargo" on FX.

"Noah Hawley saw me play in Austin, where he's from and decided that I... my persona or what he perceived it to be fit with the character, who's an undertaker in Kansas City in 1950. Like a proto-beatnik undertaker," says Bird, both flummoxed and humbled by his casting. "It will be a first for me. It's funny last night I was awake in the middle of the night like trying to sing my lines to see if that would help me feel more comfortable. Not like it's going to be an operetta or something. I'm just grasping at things because I'm not an actor."

Andrew Bird will be in Brooklyn for two shows next week. September 17 at King's Theatre and September 18 at Brooklyn Steel. Both shows will be opened by Chicano Batman.

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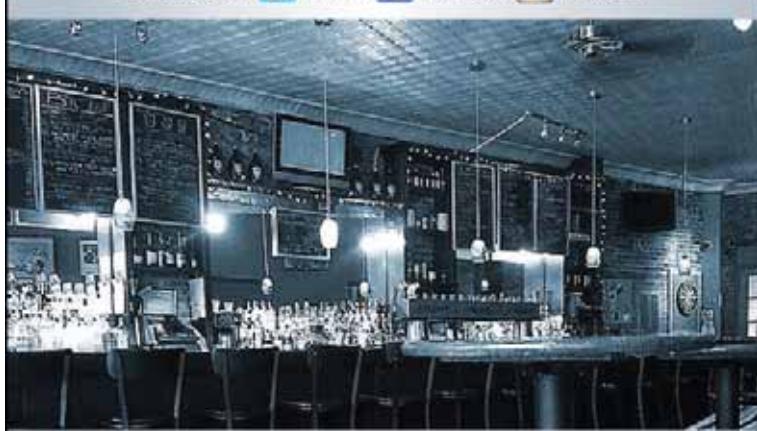
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Metro's 'don't-you-dare-miss' TV picks for Fall 2019

Sure, the return of the cool autumn winds can mean a few different things. Your days lounging on the beach may be numbered and you may look down to see that most of the things you eat and drink have a certain pumpkin-spiced tinge to them. But what it also means is that some of your favorite TV shows will be returning. Metro's Molly Given and Becca Glasser-Baker have their picks for some of the can't-miss shows returning this fall.

"The Flash"

Oct. 8, 8 p.m. on CW
Everyone's favorite speedster, Grant Gustin, reprises his role as Barry Allen/The Flash for the sixth season. Other cast members returning this season include Candice Patton, Danielle Panabaker (who will be directing some episodes), Carlos Valdes, Tom Cava-

nagh, Hartley Sawyer and Jesse L. Martin. The show follows the story of Barry Allen, a.k.a. The Flash, a DC superhero whose main power is superspeed. The show focuses on what the modern-day world would be like if people with superpowers really existed, it also focuses on showing the good and bad in people and how being human can make all the difference. — *Becca Glasser-Baker*

"It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia"

Sept. 25, 10 p.m. on FXX
One of the most hilarious shows featuring five narcissistic bar owners is back for its highly anticipated 14th season. "It's Always Sunny" follows "The Gang" — Mac, Dee, Dennis, Charlie and Frank and all of their over-the-top antics, run-ins with colorful characters and constant

selfish behavior while owning the South Philadelphia bar, Paddy's Pub. This show is truly a gem, with the insane dynamics between the characters and their forever need to make money or keep their egos in check. — *Molly Given*

"The Good Place"

Sept. 26, 9 p.m. on NBC
The hilarious comedy focusing on life after death returns to NBC for its final season. The show follows Kristen Bell, William Jackson Harper, Jameela Jamil and Manny Jacinto as they try to navigate the afterlife with the help of Ted Danson and D'Archy Carden. Everything that could go wrong, does, as the characters learn the meaning of what it is to be good. For those looking for a laugh after a long day, this is the perfect show to check out. — *BGB*

In a rare public appearance, 92-year-old Swami A. Parthasarathy will speak on the Law of Karma at The Town Hall September 26.

A celebrated Indian philosopher who shares insights from Vedanta, an ancient philosophy that empowers people to achieve true success and happiness, Parthasarathy has devoted his life to teaching people how to find happiness in their lives and success in their work by adhering to simple philosophies.

The talk is open to the public and admission is free! Reserved and VIP seating is also available.

"Living is an art, a skill," he says. "You need to learn and practice it as you would to play a musical instrument or fly an aircraft."

Known as the "Go-Getter's Guru," Parthasarathy has been featured in TIME, Businessweek, Forbes, CNN, Sports Illustrated, Goop and other American and international media. He has spoken to audiences at the World Bank, the Young Presidents Organization, Harvard, Stanford, Oxford, NASA, Google, Disney and more.

Parthasarathy earned multiple degrees in literature, science and law, and completed a graduate degree in international law from London University. He renounced a shipping business early in life to dedicate his life to study, research and propagation of Vedanta.

Like Parthasarathy, Gautam Jain, his senior disciple, has maintained serenity of mind, success in his work, and contentment with life and fitness due to the philosophy his guru teaches. This talk, says Jain, is an opportunity to share time-tested wisdom with the guru's largest western audience yet for the purpose of helping people find peace, happiness, and contentment with their lives in an era when everyone seems to strive for more, better, and beyond.

Jain also completed a brilliant academic career in the United States, receiving awards for academic and athletic excellence. He declined offers from leading U.S. corporations to devote his life to studying Vedanta and promoting its wisdom.

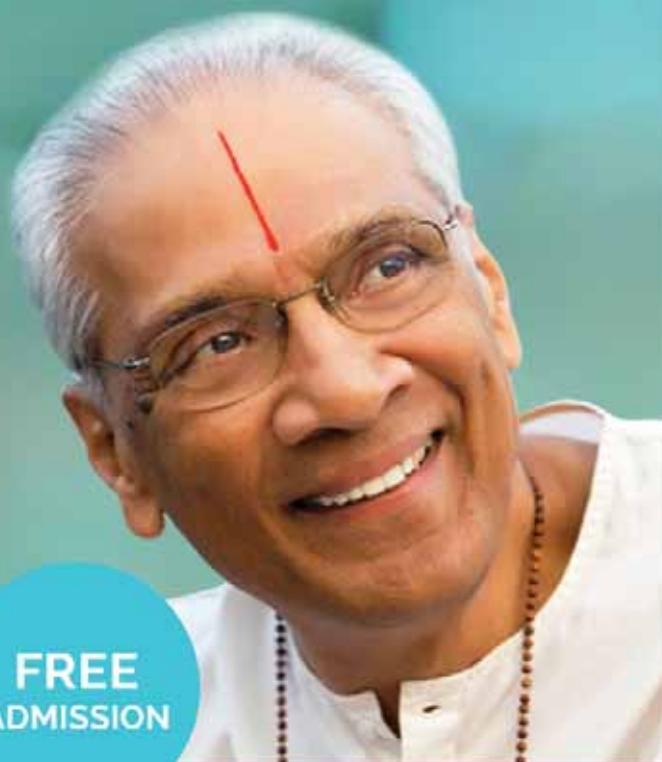
With more than two decades of full-time study, research and promotion of Vedanta, Jain leads the U.S. Vedanta Cultural Foundation and presents seminars on self-management to corporations and universities, including Goldman Sachs, IBM, AT&T, Columbia, Princeton, MIT and more.

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A Tribe Called Red
@ 6pm
99 Scott, 99 Scott Ave, Brooklyn

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Family Friendly All Star Stand Up Comedy At Lol Times Square Comedy CL
@ 7pm
LOL Times Square Comedy Club, 711 7th Avenue, New York

15th Annual Food and Wine Event
@ 7pm / \$125
The Food & Wine Experience complements the BCA's Mission to advance diversity to the highest ranks of the culinary and beverage industry. Guastavino's, 409 East 59th Street, New York. 212-643-6570

The Armed
@ 7pm
Saint Vitus Bar, 1120 Manhattan Ave, Brooklyn

Editor's Pick

Prohibition Fridays @ Secret Room with Miss Miranda & Bryona Ashly
@ 7:30pm / \$25-\$75
Join us every Friday at our new weekly Prohibition Cabaret... a speakeasy from another era in midtown featuring smokin' hot jazz bands, glamorous Chanteuses, scintillating Burlesque, swing dancing, DJ Secret Room NYC, West 45th Street, New York. 917-708-8663

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House of Bricks
@ 8pm / Free
HOUSE OF BRICKS is a rip-roaring comedy show hosted by your three best friends Hannah Boone, Brandon Ream and Gideon Hambright. Pine Box Rock Shop, 12 Grattan Street, Brooklyn

The Height of the Storm
@ 8pm
Samuel J. Friedman Theatre, 261 West 47th Street, New York

All Star Stand Up Comedy At Lol Times Square Comedy Club
@ 10:15pm
LOL Times Square Comedy Club, 711 7th Avenue, New York

NYC End of Summer Midnight Yacht Party at Skyport Marina 2019
@ 11:45pm / \$20-\$100
Friday Sept 13th, 2019 - NYC Hip Hop vs. Reggae Cruise Yacht party at Skyport Marinas Jewel Yacht Tickets 20\$ Group of 5 discount 75\$ Hookah available! Skyport Marina, 2430 FDR Drive, New York. 347-592-0300

Sat 9/14

Rochester To NYC-Feast Of San Genaro
@ 5am / \$79
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Liberty to Freedom Swim 2019
@ 6:30am / \$350
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Hepatitis B&C CME Training Program and Treatment Update -New York

@ 7:30am / \$110
This CME conference is designed to educate clinicians on the latest in diagnosing and treating Hepatitis B & C. New York Marriott East Side, 525 Lexington Avenue At East 49th Street, New York. 858-678-6400

Mon 9/16

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Kimpton Ink48 Hotel x ConBody

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Kimpton Ink48 X Conbody Fitness Series Kimpton Ink48 Hotel, 653 11th Avenue, New York. 212-757-0088

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All Star Stand Up Comedy At Lol Times Square Comedy Club

@ 11:45pm
LOL Times Square Comedy Club, 711 7th Avenue, New York

Tue 9/17

Editor's Pick

Angels and Airwaves
@ 3:30am
PlayStation Theater, 1515 Broadway, New York

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@ 11am / Free

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Tuesday Arts and Crafts at Bareburger "Ditmars" with Sky Village NYC!
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I am so grossed out whenever I see someone wearing hospital scrubs on the bus or train. You just know that someday they are going to get blood on the seat. Why don't they change before leaving work? Normal clothes HAVE to be more comfortable and plus it's so much cleaner!

— Beth, Metro New York reader



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Aries Don't let anxiety take command. Anger will not resolve issues. Do what's best for you, while also keeping in mind the needs of others. You don't have to agree to get along.



Taurus A gathering will encourage exciting, informative conversations. If you listen and learn, you will find some solutions to certain personal problems.



Gemini Do what will benefit you the most. If you keep working for someone else's benefit, you will never reach your goal. Tackling a physical challenge will ease stress.



Cancer Try something new. Socialize and get involved in ventures that inspire you to be more creative. Sign up for a cause and strive to make a difference. Romance is encouraged.



Leo A change should be made only for a good reason. Don't follow what someone else is doing if it doesn't sit well with you. Focus on personal gain, enlightenment and positive people.



Virgo Take on only what's necessary. Learn from experience and do what will bring the highest return. A family gathering will encourage stability and closer ties. Romance is in the stars.



Libra A partnership will be tested. Look for opportunities that make sense to you instead of following someone else's lead. Happiness is doing what's right and best for you.



Scorpio Don't dawdle. What you discover on your journey today will change the way you do things. If you look for innovative or unusual alternatives, you will achieve your dream.



Sagittarius Fix up your surroundings. Do the work yourself to save money. Don't let anyone sweet-talk you into something that could leave you in a vulnerable position.



Capricorn Sensitive issues are best left alone for the time being. Concentrate on making personal adjustments that will help you explore your creative objectives. Romance is encouraged.



Aquarius Look over your personal papers and money matters. Cut corners where possible and set a budget that will encourage you to save. Delays can be expected while traveling.



Pisces A change in family dynamics will take place if you attend a gathering. Use your wisdom and experience to help you level the playing field and even up the score.

EUGENIA LAST



Big Blue looks to shake off a rough Week 1 outing against Buffalo.

 JOE PANTORNO
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The New York Giants host the Buffalo Bills in their 2019 home opener on Sunday as they attempt to shake off a dismal effort in Dallas in Week 1 against the Cowboys.

A 35-17 loss showed the discrepancy in the NFC East sides — the Cowboys have postseason aspirations while the Giants will be fighting for third place in the division.

But a Week 2 matchup against the Bills provides a lighter matchup for Big Blue, which could provide a more realistic look at what the rebuilding side truly looks like.

Here are three things to watch for on Sunday afternoon at MetLife Stadium.

WILL WE SEE ANY DEFENSIVE IMPROVEMENTS?

Chalk it up to Dallas' revamped offense or not, but the Giants defense resembled Swiss cheese more than anything in Week 1.

Dak Prescott torched the Giants for 405 yards and four touchdowns while wide receivers Michael Gallup and Amari Cooper had over 100 yards apiece.

The overarching problem for the Giants is that their defensive woes don't just fall on one aspect of the unit.

Their defensive line put zero heat on the Cowboys quarterback, pressuring him just three times on 32 drop-backs.

It gave him ample time to find his receivers against a secondary that looked like a deer in headlights.

Cornerbacks Deandre Baker and Antonio Hamilton struggled mightily against the likes of Gallup, Cooper and Randall

Giants open home slate vs. Bills: What to watch for in Week 2



Saquon Barkley had just 11 carries during Sunday's loss to Dallas. GETTY IMAGES

Cobb, providing little support for veteran Jairus Jenkins.

In an attempt to shake up the defense, the Giants claimed former Steelers outside linebacker Tuzar Skipper off waivers, an underrated move that could help the pass rush.

The 24-year-old University of Toledo product had a strong preseason showing with Pittsburgh, leading the team with five sacks.

Week 2 brings the Bills, an offense that was largely dominated by the Jets during Week 1 when star linebacker CJ Mosley was on the field. Second-year quarterback Josh

Allen resembled a deer in headlights after he threw two interceptions and lost a pair of fumbles on Buffalo's first six possessions.

When Mosley exited with a groin injury, the Bills took advantage, scoring 14 points on their final three possessions.

Allen's main target is wide receiver John Brown, who reeled in seven catches for 123 yards on 10 targets with a touchdown. As a speedy deep threat, it could spell disaster for a Giants secondary that did little to impress.

SAQUON BARKLEY'S USE

At this point, it's sheer ignorance to suggest that Saquon Barkley isn't the most vital asset to the Giant's offense.

He dispelled any notion of there being a sophomore slump in Week 1, ripping apart the Cowboys almost every time he touched the ball.

Barkley averaged 10.9 yards per rush, including a 59-yard bolt on his first carry of the season.

The problem was that Pat Shurmur called his number just 11 times — an unacceptable number even if the Giants were playing from behind. Veteran quarterback Eli Manning averaged 6.6 yards per completion — 4.3 yards fewer than Barkley's average rush.

There could be two schools of thought to assess Barkley's lack of usage despite his overwhelming effectiveness.

Either head coach Pat Shurmur is just mismanaging Barkley — his best player — and would rather put the fate of his offense in Manning's hands, or he is attempting to preserve Barkley

for as long as possible.

It's well-known that the average productive life span for a running back's career is four to five years. Why waste the time of one of the most explosive running backs on a team with little postseason hope?

Shurmur has had Barkley carry the ball over 20 times just four times in his first 17 career games.

Should the Giants defy expectations and make a run for the playoffs, Barkley's usage might change.

ENGRAM'S EVOLUTION

Manning has always shown an affinity for

tight ends throughout his career, making third-year tight end Evan Engram a prime candidate for a breakout season.

Engram was far and away the Giants' most targeted and productive pass-catcher against the Cowboys, hauling in 11 catches on 14 targets for 116 yards and a touchdown.

With an athletic skill-set that aligns more with a wide receiver than tight end, the 25-year-old is becoming a matchup nightmare for opposing defenses.

Expect him to be a focal point in the Giants' aerial attack, especially with No. 1 wide receiver Sterling Shepard in the concussion protocol.



Unchanged Isles welcoming familiarity

A majority of the Islanders' roster remains unchanged from last year's unlikely playoff run.



JOE PANTORNO
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EAST MEADOW — While teams around them wheeled and dealled over the summer, the New York Islanders remained largely unchanged.

Following a 2018-19 season in which they shocked the NHL world by finishing second in the Metropolitan Division before making it to the Eastern Conference semifinals, the Islanders have stood pat this offseason, opting for minor tweaks rather than wholesale changes.

Whether that was the initial approach by general manager Lou



The Islanders' training camp roster includes 24 players that featured in last year's team. GETTY IMAGES

Lamoriello this offseason or not, the word "familiarity" was plenty prevalent during Islanders media on Thursday.

The Islanders have 24 returning members from last year preparing

to suit up for the start of training camp Friday — the only changes of note being the departure of goaltender Robin Lehner in free agency, the signing of his replacement, Semyon Varlamov, and

the acquisition of veteran Derick Brassard to center the third line.

"That goes a long way in the long run," star center Mathew Barzal said. "Just building that bond and having core

guys here all the time, just creating that camaraderie with your teammates... I feel good... I'm ready to get going."

Team captain Anders Lee was quick to stress that complacency hasn't set in.

"We're starting over," he said. "Even though it's a similar group... it's a whole new season and that just brings on Day One work ethics from the get-go."

The Islanders offense

hasn't found the scoring punch that head coach Barry Trotz pined for toward the end of last season — they lost out on the Artemi Panarin sweepstakes to the Rangers in July — but the last year's NHL-best defense is back intact.

"

That's good news for Thomas Greiss, who is expected to platoon with Varlamov as he did with Lehner last season.

"For sure (it helps me)," Greiss said. "It helps the whole coach-

ing staff, too. Everybody has a foundation and everyone knows what's going on so it'll help us right from the get-go."

It seems as though the team's best chance of having new talent infused with the roster will come from its youth ranks as strong pushes are expected from highly-touted prospects such as forwards Oliver Wahlstrom, Kieffer Bellows, and defenseman Noah Dobson.

"I think having good depth and having good-quality picks that are down there that puts backside pressure [on the roster]," head coach Barry Trotz said.

However, he alluded that his young forwards will likely start the year in the minors, at least.

"The good thing of having some depth is they don't have to hurry the kids," Trotz said.

"You're better off overcooking them a little bit."

Darnold out for MNF vs. Browns, Bell shoulder clear

The Jets QB will miss Week 2 against the Browns.



JOE PANTORNO
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New York Jets head coach Adam Gase announced on Thursday that starting quarterback Sam Darnold will miss Monday night's Week 2 matchup against the Cleveland Browns after he contracted mononucleosis.

Trevor Siemian will take over under center while Darnold recovers. There is no timetable for the starter's return, but it could be a multi-week ordeal.

Siemian, 27, spent the last three seasons with the Denver Broncos and started 24 of the last 25 games he appeared in from 2017-2018. He completed 59.3 percent of his passes during that



Sam Darnold will miss Monday night with mono. GETTY IMAGES

stretch for 5,686 yards, 30 touchdowns and 24 interceptions.

He'll take over for a Jets offense that stalled for a majority of their season opener last week in a 17-16 loss to the Buffalo Bills. With Darnold at the helm, the Jets offense could only muster eight points and 223 total yards against an underrated Bills defense.

The second-year quar-

terback and face of the franchise experienced his fair share of struggles throughout the afternoon, completing 28-of-41 passes for 175 yards and one touchdown.

That lone scoring play was to debutant running back Le'Veon Bell, who had a strong showing of his own despite the loss. The former Steeler recorded 92 total yards, looking very much like

the potent dual-threat back he's been advertised to be over the years.

Most of the offensive load would be expected to fall on his shoulders with Darnold out for Monday night, but his status was up in the air as well.

The 27-year-old was held out of practice on Thursday due to shoulder soreness and underwent an MRI that eventually showed no structural damage or tears.

His absence would have made a Week 2 win that much more difficult as it would put the Jets down their top-two playmakers against a mediocre Browns defense.

Despite the lopsided

43-13 scoreline against the Tennessee Titans, the Browns defense limited Marcus Mariota to 216 passing yards — although he threw for three touchdowns. The Titans rushing game, however, was able to put up 123 yards on the day.

Severino to return for Yanks Tuesday

New York Yankees ace Luis Severino is coming back.

MLB.com's Bryan Hoch reported on Thursday that the right-hander will make his 2019 debut on Tuesday against the Los Angeles Angels.

Severino had been out since spring training because of a lat and rotator cuff injury.

The 25-year-old appeared for the team's double-A affiliate, the Trenton Thunder, on Wednesday night where he showed Yankees brass that he was ready to make the jump to the majors.

In 3.2 innings, he allowed one earned run on five hits with four strikeouts with a fastball that touched 98 miles per hour.

Severino was the undisputed No. 1 arm for the Yankees last season, going 19-8 with a 3.39 ERA despite a difficult second half of the season.

While getting that caliber of arm back in the starting rotation is a huge



pick-up for the Yankees, the timing of Severino's return could limit his availability in the final stretch of the season.

It would be a large ask of the Yankees to throw Severino right to the top of the pitching staff and prepare for the postseason in the equivalent of three rounds through the rotation.

Severino will undoubtedly be an important factor throughout the rest of 2019. However, he could pitch under an innings limit that ensures his health and puts the team's strength — their bullpen — on the forefront.

JOE PANTORNO

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NOTICE OF SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated August 09, 2017, and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Queens, wherein U.S. BANK TRUST N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR LSF9 MASTER PARTICIPATION TRUST, is the Plaintiff and HATERAM SINGH, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the QUEENS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 88-11 SUTPHIN BLVD., COURTHROOM #25, JAMAICA, NY 11435, on October 4, 2019 at 10:00 AM, premises known as 17343 103 ROAD, JAMAICA, NY 11433: Block 10232, Lot: 46 ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE BOROUGH AND COUNTY OF QUEENS, CITY AND STATE OF NEW YORK Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 0025248/2009. Judah Maltz, Esq. - Referee. RAS Boriskin, LLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

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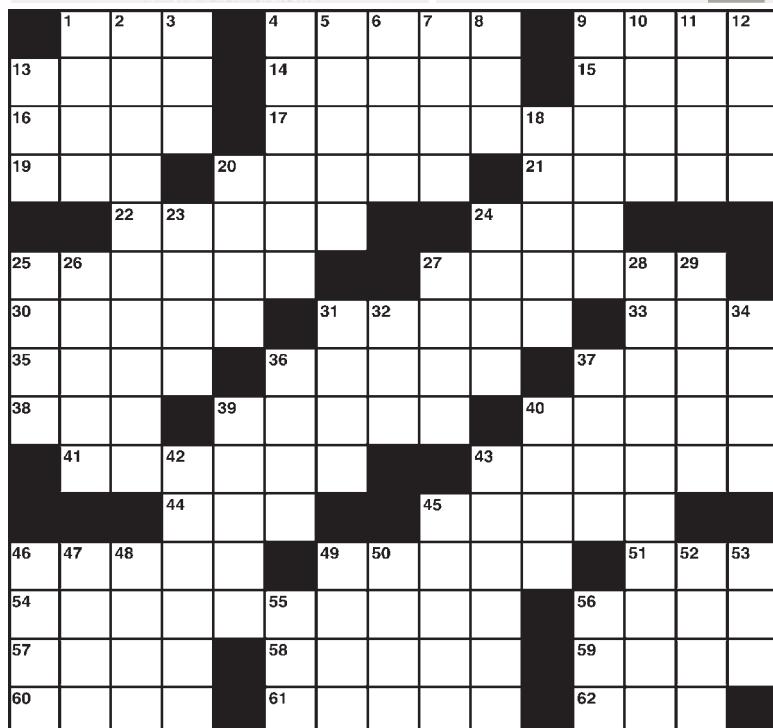
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